IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) In a data processing system having a user terminal which generates a service request to define desired data processing services coupled to a data base management system which provides said desired data processing services by execution of an ordered sequence of native command language script via a publicly accessible digital data communication network, the improvement comprising:

a. a customized user interface having a plurality of components wherein at least one of said plurality of components is stored within said user terminal and at least another one of said plurality of components is stored within and transferred via said publicly accessible digital data communication network from said data base management system;

b. a document containing a plurality of elements formatted in XML (extensible markup language) generated by said user terminal utilizing said customized user interface and transferred from said user terminal to said data base management system which contains said service request; and

[[b]] c. an XML mapping tree stored within said data base management system via which the transformation of each of said plurality of elements is defined which permits

conversion of said document to said ordered sequence of native command language script.

2. (Original) The improvement according to claim 1 wherein at least one of said plurality of elements further comprises an attribute which is recorded within said XML mapping tree.

3. (Original) The improvement according to claim 2 wherein said document is defined by a Document Type Definition (DTD).

4. (Currently Amended) The improvement according to claim 3 further comprising a storage space within said data base management system in which said XML mapping tree is stored for future use.

5. (Currently Amended) The improvement according to claim 4 wherein said XML mapping tree is transferred to said user terminal to be displayed on said user terminal in a window.

6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a. a user terminal having a customized user interface wherein a portion of said customized user interface is not resident within said user terminal;

b. an XML document which describes a service request defining a database management process generated by said user terminal utilizing said customized user interface;

[[b]]c. a publicly accessible digital data communication network;

[[c]]d. a data base management system having an input format different from XML which involves a native script which is executed by said data base management system to honor said service request responsively coupled to said publicly accessible digital data communication network which transfers said portion of said customized user interface not resident within said user terminal to said user terminal and which receives said XML document via said publicly accessible digital data communication network; and

[[d]] e. an XML mapping tree responsively coupled to said data base management system which parses said XML document into said input format of said data base management system which involves said native script which is executed by said data base management system to honor said service request.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said XML mapping tree is stored for future use.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said XML document further comprises a plurality of elements and at least one of said plurality of elements has an attribute.

9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said publicly accessible digital data communication system further comprises the Internet.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said XML mapping tree is hierarchical.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of using an XML document to define a service request to a data base management system having an incompatible input protocol including an ordered sequence of command language statements for execution by said data base management system to honor said service request comprising:

a. transferring a portion of a customized user interface to a user terminal;

b. creating said XML document by said user terminal using said customized user interface;

c. transferring said XML document defining said service request to said data base management system via a publicly accessible digital data communication network;

[[b]]d. parsing said XML document into an XML mapping tree; and

[[c]]e. presenting said parsed XML document as said ordered sequence of command language statements to said data base management system for processing by execution.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11 further comprising the set of saving said XML mapping tree for future use.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 12 wherein said XML document is defined by a DTD.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 13 wherein said XML document further comprises a plurality of elements and at least one element has an attribute.

15. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 14 wherein said publicly accessible digital data communication network further comprises the Internet.

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a. creating means for creating an XML document defining a service request utilizing a customized user interface;

b. transmitting means responsively coupled to said creating means for transmitting [[an]] said XML document defining [[a]] said service request;

[[b]]c. providing means responsively coupled to said transmitting means for providing data base management functions to honor said service request and for providing a portion of said customized user interface to said creating means; and

[[c]]d. composing means responsively coupled to said providing means for composing said XML document from an XML mapping tree and data in said data base management system.

17. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 16 wherein said composing means further comprises storing means for storing said parsed XML document for future use.

18. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said XML document further comprises a plurality of elements and at least one of said plurality of elements has an attribute.

19. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 18 wherein said transmitting means further comprises the Internet.

20. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 19 further comprising displaying means for displaying said XML document.

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for controlling a legacy database management system using an XML message comprising:

a. a user terminal having a customized user interface with which said user terminal generates a database management system service request as said XML message;

b. said legacy database management system responsively coupled to said user terminal via a publicly accessible digital data communication network which stores components of said customized user interface and which transfers said components of said customized user interface to said user terminal for generating said service request as said XML message and which honors said service request by executing an ordered sequence of command language script; and

c. a conversion facility responsively coupled to said legacy database management system which parses said XML message to produce said ordered sequence of command language script.

22. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 21 wherein said XML message further comprises a plurality of elements.

23. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 22 wherein said conversion facility further comprises an element to source mapping tree.

24. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 23 further comprising a repository wherein said element to source mapping tree is stored for future use.

25. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 24 wherein said publicly accessible digital data communication network further comprises the Internet.